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RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 24th, 1888.

Our next issue will be published on Monday, January 7th, and will then be issued once a week thereafter. The first number will contain our annual summaries of imports and exports and such other statistical information regarding the year now closing as we may be able to obtain. We trust that our friends will bear in mind that this change in the frequency of publication, combined with the increasing circulation of "The News" in Brazil, renders it one of the best advertising mediums in the country. It will be specially valuable for business announcements, firm changes, notices of meetings, dividends, etc., and all other matters in which merchants and investors are interested.

SOME months ago, when the government of Bolivia was engaged in putting down an insurrection, the government of Paraguay sent a small force to seize a little town on the Rio Paraguay which the Bolivians claim to be within their territory. The Bolivian minister at Asunción at once protested and, getting no satisfaction, withdrew from Paraguay. Diplomatic relations have since then been suspended, Bolivia has been busily engaged in settling domestic troubles, and Paraguay has quietly held on to the captured town. All our advices from the south, however, indicate a peaceful settlement, as neither country is prepared for war. It was a matter of surprise, therefore, when the Brazilian government resolved a few days since to station an "army of observation" in Matto Grosso, near the point of contact between the two angry countries. There have been no advices of impending war that the public knows anything about, and the Argentines were unsuspecting of danger. Following so closely upon the "military question" in São Paulo, there is a very well founded belief that the movement was designed more to get rid of a lot of idle, insubordinate officers and troublesome soldiers, than to meet any real danger. There is, however, very little definite, reliable information on the subject, and surmises are not always trustworthy. We do not believe there is any real danger of war at present, although the force sent to Matto Grosso will be, it is said, about 5,000 men.

It ought to be patent to the minister of agriculture that no well-managed enterprise can have any interest in giving preference to any article consumed and forming an item in working expenses, except upon the grounds of cheapness and efficiency. The manager of such an enterprise has the primary object always in view of increasing its profits, and he will not be likely therefore to pursue a course tending to increase

expenses and thus decrease the net revenue. In view of this, the letter which the minister addressed to the fiscal engineer of the Rio Grande and Bagé railway on the 4th inst., and published in the *Diário Oficial* on the 17th, in regard to the use of native coal, is clearly unnecessary and unjustifiable. It would appear that the proprietors of the Arroio dos Ratos mine in Rio Grande do Sul have been complaining to the minister that this railway company refuses to use their coal, and without giving satisfactory reasons for preferring the foreign article. We were not aware that any company is under obligations to give reasons to another for not buying its merchandise, but we let that pass. When matters reach the point where an intelligent man is not permitted to manage his own affairs according to his own judgment, it will then be found that no one will care to invest his skill and capital in the country unless a liberal subsidy is paid to cover risks which no careful man would take on his own responsibility. Instead of leaving the Arroio dos Ratos people to manage their own affairs and sell their coal on its merits, the minister has taken the highly improper course of instructing his fiscal engineer to use his influence with the company to the end that this national coal may be used in the service of their road. If we mistake not, this places the minister in the position of playing a divided part. He is making it a special object of his department to closely fiscalize the expenses of these guaranteed railways, and to eliminate every item of expense which can not be clearly justified—and even many which common sense and established custom fully justify. How can he, therefore, force a company—and this letter to the fiscal engineer is equivalent to compulsion, as everyone knows—to use a more expensive coal, when he is prepared to cut down the increase in expense when the accounts come up for audit? Trials of this Arroio dos Ratos coal have been made over and over again, and with the uniform result that it is too dirty for economical use. It has even been tried with special fire boxes, and even there it was found expensive and troublesome. If the coal were good, the Rio Grande railways and steamers would certainly not continue paying the exceptionally high prices for imported coal which rule in that province. If they do not use it, and prefer to pay the high prices charged for foreign coal, it is evidently for the sole reason that the native article does not meet their requirements. Ministerial interference is therefore mischievous, and must result prejudicially to the best interests of the companies in question.

The postal service between New York and South America has frequently been made a subject of discussion in these columns, not only in the interests of individuals, but also in the general commercial interests of the two countries. Quick and sure postal communication is an important factor in the development of trade, and it is the plain duty of those entrusted with the dispatch of the mails to see that they go by the quickest route and by first opportunity. Large business transactions frequently depend on quick replies to specific inquiries, and it is therefore essential to avoid every possible delay in the transmission of the mails. The present superintendent of the foreign mail service in the United States postoffice department appears to be utterly unable to comprehend the importance of this subject. We have frequently called attention to the error of holding Brazilian mails in New York and we know that private complaints have been made to the same effect. The government once took sufficient notice of the matter to send a man to investigate—although the consul could

easily have given better information—but no change for the better ensued. The clerk sent out spent about one week in this city—mainly sight-seeing, of course—and then returned on the same steamer which brought him out. It was a pleasant excursion, but a very bad measure from a business point of view. We say nothing of the fact that letters can come *via* Europe in about the same time they can come direct, for the American steamers are over-worked and are compelled to make many calls along the coast which prevent quick voyages between terminal points. The fact remains, however, that letters have been received here *via* England in 27 days and generally take no more than 30 days, while the American steamers take from 25 to 30 days to make the trip from New York to Rio de Janeiro. Add to this the practice of holding letters at New York for the next direct steamer, and we have cause for continual complaint. We have a letter before us which came by the last direct steamer and which is postmarked "Chicago, Oct. 12," "New York, Oct. 13," and "Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 6"—55 days on the way, of which 25 days were spent in the New York postoffice. This is simply a disgrace! A child ought to be able to manage a postal department better than that. Under the Arthur administration the superintendent of the foreign mail service was accustomed to send letters *via* England up to within a few days of the sailing of the American steamers, and we then received our mails quickly and regularly. It was not *protecting* an American enterprise, of course, but it was sound business and eventually benefited American trade. Under present circumstances, everything is held for these steamers, and as a result American interests in this part of the world are suffering for it severely. If the new administration goes in for the same kind of "protection," we shall advise our correspondents and readers to address all their envelopes "*via* England."

THE colonization mania now raging throughout the country is responsible for a very interesting contract for the settlement of immigrants which was signed by the minister of agriculture and Henrique Irineu de Souza on the 14th inst. By the terms of this contract, the latter undertakes to create two colonies on his plantations in the municipality of Rezende, Rio de Janeiro, and the municipality of Ayruoca, Minas Geraes, with a parish nucleus, or village, in each. He will have the estates surveyed into lots of 20 hectares each (49.42 acres), and the two villages, which must have an area of not less than 200 hectares, into lots of 10 hectares each (24.71 acres). These lots must be connected by public roads with the general highway leading to a station on the Dom Pedro II railway. The maximum price to be charged for these lands is 25\$ per hectare, but for the first 50 families established the price will be 20\$ per hectare. Payments may be made integrally, or by five annual installments without interest. In each of the two villages the proprietor must build a school-house and a town-house for the administration, drug-store and chapel, the first to cost 3,000\$ and the second 5,000\$. A barrack or *hospedaria* must also be established in each for the reception and maintenance of colonists until they can be settled on their lots, and the proprietor must provide food, shelter, implements, etc., for them until their first crop is harvested. The contract specifies that 400 families must be settled on these lands within a period of two years. The government, on its part, agrees to make the general highway between the colonies and the railway, to pay a subsidy of 60,000\$ for the first 200 families established (the same to be paid by installments), to pay the passages of the immigrants to Brazil under the

present general law, and to give the contract for building the roads specified to the proprietor of the lands. It is difficult to understand why the government should enter into any such engagements. There are, or ought to be, public lands enough to enable the government to provide all immigrants with homes. If the existing proprietors wish to sell their estates—as many of them undoubtedly do—then they should be left to arrange their own terms without any assistance, or guarantee, from the public treasury. According to the above terms, the proprietor of the Itatiaia estate (as it is generally known) will be able to sell his property as follows: 50 lots at 20\$ per hectare, 20,000\$; 40 village lots of 10 hectares at 25\$ per hectare, 10,000\$; 310 remaining lots, which must be occupied within two years (estimating one family to the lot), at 25\$ per hectare, 155,000\$; and government subsidy, 60,000\$; total 245,000\$ for 7,600 hectares of land, or \$138.975 for 18,780 acres. This shows an average of \$7.10 an acre for land partly mountainous, largely uncultivated, and wholly unfenced. Out of this the proprietor is required to expend a maximum of 96,000\$ for buildings, and to make certain advances for maintenance, implements, etc., but to meet these he will have the profits of a large government contract and the profits on supplying his colonists with the necessities of life. The land will cost the colonist at the rate of \$5.50 an acre, exclusive of the 6% transfer tax, which is certainly a good price for the property in question, and is quite enough to repay the proprietor for placing these plantations on the market in a saleable condition. If the government proposes to aid proprietors to dispose of their estates after this fashion, it will soon have its hands full.

PERNAMBUCO FESTIVITIES.

Early in November the somewhat dull routine of our Pernambuco daily life was agreeably broken into by the visit of the Commodore and his ship. Captain Kennedy had already paid us one visit in H. M. S. *Ruby* in the previous November, so we were able to welcome back many old friends. A few new faces were seen amongst the group of officers this time welcomed to our shores, but practically it was the same set we had known and liked before. This time unfortunately our excellent consul, Mr. Cohen, was not here to take the lead, but the vice-consul, Mr. Hughes, was a very efficient substitute. For a week previous to the arrival of the *Ruby*, H. M. S. *Flamingo* had been at anchor within the reef and her officers had been proving to us that the *Ruby* did not monopolize all the good fellows stationed on the S. E. coast of South America.

As soon as the *Ruby* had dropped anchor the epidemic of dances, picnics, etc., which had started with the arrival of the *Flamingo*, took a turn for the worse—or rather the better. There was a grand cricket match in which our very strong local team gained a victory over "the fleet," in spite of their successful career "down south," and finally matters reached a climax when the officers, not content with showing one and all the greatest hospitality "aboard," borrowed the telegraph quarters and gave a dance to the British colony of Pernambuco. It was on the 16th Nov., and a splendid night, contrasting favorably in this respect with the jubilee dance of last year when the rain closed the grounds against would be promenaders. Altogether it was one of the most successful dances Pernambuco has seen for a long time. Our hosts headed by Capt. Kennedy did everything in their power to insure the success of the evening, and it is only just to say that the success of the whole visit of the *Ruby* to Pernambuco was greatly due to Capt. Kennedy's kindness in every respect.

On the following night a big smoking concert was also given at the telegraph quarters with the greatest success. All the music was first class, and song followed song in quick succession, and the old house rang again with the choruses of old sea songs. Prominent amongst the strong naval

contingent that attended was the Commodore himself, and it was worth going a long way to see and hear him sing his songs. There was a something in the sight of the grand old sailor that made us feel it was a good thing to be English also, and as we looked round us we felt that in spite of all alarmists the British navy must always be the first in the world as long as the English sailor is what he is. It was a good sight that, and not an unfitting climax to the pretty sight of the night before when the station rooms, made bright by the bunting which our friends had decorated it with, gay with the pretty costumes of the ladies and brilliant with the handsome uniforms of the men, was worth going a long way to see. And if we poor civilians felt for a moment that Providence had been unkind in not providing us also with the epaulets and Egyptian medals which robbed us of more than one fair partner, our grievance was soon forgotten in the jollity of the occasion. And as the old rooms echoed and re-echoed with laughter and music, which were 'sunny hours' even in this bright sunny 'home' of ours, perhaps some of us caught faint vibrations of the laughter and light which in the past had echoed through the old house that for so many generations has been the home of English folks. Hallowed by the thoughts of those 'gone before,' some of us may have also thought of the morrow when those kindly and gallant seamen would part from us also, and have felt rising to our lips the words: Good luck, God speed, and bring you in his own good time, O kindly guests and hosts, "to the haven where ye would be."

C

Pernambuco, 6th December, 1888.

RIO CRICKET CLUB.

At the invitation of the River Plate Club, a team of eleven of the R. C. C. left Rio per *Tamar* on the 2nd inst. for Buenos Aires.

The voyage to Montevideo, with calm and fine weather, was very enjoyable, although it took most of our men a couple of days to find their sea legs.

At Montevideo we were met by Mr. H. Alfieri C. Cox, a brother of our captain, who recommended our landing and taking the River boat to Buenos Aires in order to avoid the 1001 inconveniences of quarantine, which we should have in undergo in the event of proceeding to that city on the *Tamar*.

Following such good advice, we transferred ourselves and belongings to the *Adela*, a splendidly fitted up steamer, and one which compares favorably with the Hudson River boats—in fact, leaving Montevideo in her on the evening of the 6th, and steaming up the River in the evening, brought back to mind many pleasant trips that we had made on the Hudson.

We arrived at Buenos Aires early on the morning of the 7th and found that some kind friends, all true lovers of sport, had provided for us, at the Provenance Hotel, every accommodation and comfort for our sojourn in Buenos Aires. Under the guidance of the representatives of the B. A. Club, we took the morning train and arrived at Palermo station at 11 a.m., where we found ourselves within two minutes of the picturesque grounds of the R. A. C. C., which we found, as also the pitch, to be in excellent condition. Both teams were ready and eager for battle, and no time was lost in setting the usual preliminaries which awaited the match to be commenced at 11:30 a.m. and which resulted in the following score:

Buenos Aires.

1st innings.	2nd innings.
1 Mackenzie, b. Slater..... 5	5 Slater, b. Kennedy..... 7
2 North, l. b. w. b. Kennedy..... 0	6 Slater..... 27
3 Macnaman, c. Slater, b. Kennedy..... 3	7 Slater..... 0
4 Giffard, l. b. w. b. Slater..... 15	8 Slater, b. Kennedy..... 58
5 Master, b. Kennedy..... 10	9 Kennedy, b. Slater..... 23
6 Stokes, c. Morrissey, b. Slater..... 35	10 Kennedy, b. Slater..... 33
7 Preston, b. Smith..... 11	11 Slater..... 1
8 Lacey, c. Slater, b. Kennedy..... 19	12 Slater, b. Cross..... 7
9 Lewis, c. Elworthy, b. Slater..... 19	13 Slater, b. Kennedy..... 10
10 Calvo, not out..... 13	14 l. b. w. b. Kennedy..... 1
11 Williamson, b. Kennedy..... 0	15 not out..... 0
Extras..... 6	Extras..... 2
135	178

Rio.

1st innings.	2nd innings.
1 E. Wadbrook, c. MacKenzie, b. Slater..... 0	0 North, b. Calvo..... 0
2 C. Hall, c. Williamson, b. Master..... 6	6 Lewis..... 1
3 J. Morrissey, c. Lewis, b. Slater..... 2	7 Williamson, b. Lewis..... 0
4 G. Kennedy, run out..... 28	8 Macdonald, b. Lewis..... 0
5 J. Smith, b. Lewis..... 1	9 Calvo..... 0
6 J. Cross, c. Williamson, b. Lewis..... 3	10 Lewis..... 1
7 J. Elworthy, c. Lewis, b. Master..... 21	11 Stokes, b. Calvo..... 1
8 C. Cox, c. Calvo, b. Williamson..... 17	12 do do..... 1
9 W. Slater, c. Lacey, b. Williamson..... 16	13 not out..... 16
10 Slater, c. Macdonald, b. Williamson..... 0	14 run out..... 2
11 J. Ridgeway, not out..... 6	15 b. Lewis..... 1
Extras..... 6	Extras..... 2
90	30

On Monday the 10th the Rosario eleven met us on the same ground, but owing to the heavy rain which had fallen the previous evening, play could not be commenced until half past 2, and unfortunately, had to be stopped at about 5:30 in consequence of a thunder-storm which set in at that hour. At the drawing of the stumps the game was declared drawn in favor of the Rio team, as will be seen by the following score.

ROSARIO VS. RIO.

Rosario.

1 W. Graham, run out..... 11	11
2 W. Pennam, b. Slater..... 3	3
3 A. Musgrove, l. b. w. b. Slater..... 9	9
4 R. Trail, b. Kennedy..... 1	1
5 Fleming, b. Kennedy..... 0	0
6 H. Mills, c. Wadbrook, b. Slater..... 15	15
7 J. Daniels, b. Smith..... 12	12
8 P. Talbot, do..... 1	1
9 J. Bradney, b. Slater..... 0	0
10 T. Hay, not out..... 0	0
11 B. Drenitt, c. Smith, b. Slater..... 1	1
Extras..... 3	3
56	56

Rio.

1 E. Wadbrook, not out..... 24	24
2 J. Elworthy, b. Musgrove..... 5	5
3 C. Ball, b. Pennam..... 1	1
4 J. Cross, b. Musgrove..... 1	1
5 J. Smith, do..... 1	1
6 G. Kennedy, not out..... 7	7
7 G. Cox..... 1	1
8 W. Slater..... 1	1
9 J. Blair..... 1	1
10 J. Morrissey..... 1	1
11 J. Ridgeway..... 1	1
Extras..... 2	2
41	41

We returned to Montevideo on Tuesday, the 11th, and on the following day played a match with the Montevideo Cricket Club, which was won by them.

RIO VS. MONTEVIDEO.

Rio.

1st innings.	2nd innings.
1 E. Wadbrook, c. Jones, b. Theobald..... 48	48
2 J. Elworthy, b. Chatter..... 41	41
3 J. Blair, b. Levy..... 1	1
4 J. Smith, b. Levy..... 32	32
5 G. Kennedy, b. Levy..... 14	14
6 J. Cross, l. b. w. b. Levy..... 10	10
7 G. Cox, b. Levy..... 5	5
8 J. Morrissey, run out..... 1	1
9 W. Slater, b. Walker..... 6	6
10 C. Ball, b. Levy..... 0	0
11 J. Ridgeway, not out..... 9	9
Extras..... 5	5
95	138

Montevideo.

1 A. Jones, b. Slater..... 6	6
2 W. Walker, run out..... 0	0
3 P. Chatter, c. Smith, b. Kennedy..... 47	47
4 H. Alexander, l. b. w. b. Smith..... 19	19
5 H. Levy, b. Slater..... 0	0
6 R. Moor, b. Smith..... 0	0
7 C. Smith, run out..... 7	7
8 R. Pessent, b. Kennedy..... 1	1
9 R. Theobald, not out..... 6	6
10 R. Williams, c. and b. Smith..... 0	0
11 W. Conlith, c. Cross, b. Smith..... 1	1
Extras..... 10	10
115	115

With regard to the play of our team it must be said that we lost much through bad fielding, and should even have presented a less favorable appearance, but for the good bowling form shown by Messrs. W. Slater and G. Kennedy, who bowled almost throughout the three games.

The members of the Rio team reached home on the 18th inst., and are loud in their praise of the country and kind attention shown them by the "Gaisano Club" and "Club dos Residentes Estrangeiros" at Buenos Aires, the English Club at Montevideo and all others whom they had the pleasure of meeting. We are glad to be able to state that the Buenos Aires Club has promised to send a team to Rio next year, when we hope that a better show will be made by the home team, and a very pleasant stay amongst us made by the visitors.

BAHIA ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The athletic sports at Bahia were held on the Campo Grande, on the 8th inst., and proved a great success, all the events being closely contested. The following is the list of winners:

100 yards flat race: 1st, F. Stevenson; 2nd, J. M. Florence.	
220 yards flat race: 1st, J. M. Florence; 2nd, W. V. Field.	
120 yards hurdle race: W. H. Blakemore.	
Lung jump: W. H. Blakemore, 17 ft., 5 in.	
High jump: W. H. Blakemore, 4 ft., 7 in.	
Throwing the cricket ball: J. M. Florence, 106 yards, 8 in.	
Three-legged race: H. P. Nicholson and P. Caley.	
Blindfold race: F. Stevenson.	
100 yards flat race, ladies' prize: F. Stevenson.	
Consolation stakes—100 yards flat race: G. A. Wyatt.	
Tug of war—Brazilians and Englishmen: the Brazilians winning.	

Regarding this last event it is well to explain that the result was mainly due to the English team being done up from the hard work they had gone through in a hot sun, while their opponents were quite fresh.

PROVINCIAL NOTES.

—The headquarters of the commander-in-chief of the forces in Mato Grosso will be at Curumã.

—The exodus from Ceará continues. Great suffering is reported to exist throughout the interior.

—The new water-works at Manaus, province of Amazonas, were formally inaugurated on the 8th inst.

—The São Paulo shop-keepers are now talking of an excursion to Rio, after the recent example of their clerks. Why would it not be a good idea to organize a picnic at Cachoeira.

—The merchants of Pitangui, Minas Geraes, are no fools. If an application is made to them to change a 20\$ note, they require the applicant to purchase some of their wares.

—At Baracena, Minas Geraes, a gentleman ran away with his sweetheart on the 1st. They were captured by the police, spent the evening in jail and next day were married.

—The new jail at Campos, province of Rio de Janeiro, will be inaugurated next month. Inaugurating a jail is something like inaugurating a cemetery.

—There is a happy man at Santa Maria de Itabira, Minas Geraes, who has succeeded in burying four wives. He will not "stand on his hand" and the sixth one will probably win the game.

—Valença, province of Rio de Janeiro, elected on the 15th a republican city councilman by a large majority over the leader of the conservative party in the municipality, who was also a candidate.

—The *Ulterior* correspondent of the *Journal do Commercio* says that it rained continuously in that place from the 7th to the 12th inst., the rainfall measuring 1,054 millimetres.

—Rio Grande do Sul papers state that Messrs. Rheingantz & Co., the owners of the spinning and weaving mill there, propose to add to their establishment a ready-made clothing department.

—An interest guarantee for 15 years of 6 per cent. on 750,000\$ has been granted for the building of a central sugar factory in the municipality of Santo Amaro, province of Bahia.

—The province of Minas Geraes is divided into 60 comarcas, 100 termos, 665 districts, 100 col-lectorias and 430 post-office agencies. This is worth knowing, but some figures as to the population would be more appreciated.

—A terrible hailstorm recently (our exchange does not give the date) occurred at Amparo, São Paulo. There is no mention as to whether the coffee crop was reduced one-third by the storm, or not.

—The municipal council of Niteroi has contracted for an allegorical picture to commemorate the passage of the abolition law. The picture will be 5 metres long and cost 6,000\$, or 1,200\$ per metre.

—The provincial government of Rio de Janeiro has just enacted a law granting permission to the municipality of Niteroi to contract for 150 small lotteries, of 80,000\$ each. Poverty-stricken Niteroi will now be happy.

—The *Diário de Minas*, of Juiz de Fora, is informed that the electric light plant for that city has been ordered from the Westinghouse Co. of New York, and is expected to arrive here some time in January.

—The merchants and shippers of Santos have been obliged to address a petition to the municipal council asking for the removal of the lumber and other material deposited along the water front and in the public squares, and which greatly impede public traffic with the shipping.

—The November receipts of the Porto Alegre custom house were 152,178\$586, against 242,490\$ in the same month of last year. From January to November the total receipts were 2,268,756\$016, against 2,921,132\$178 in the same period of 1887, showing a falling off in receipts of 657,376\$764.

—The *Liberal Mineiro*, of Ouri Preto, Minas Geraes, says there is a school at Montes Claros, in that province, where the daily attendance frequently does not exceed twenty. And yet two teachers are employed, one with a salary of 1,400\$, and the other with 1,050. Two such schools ought to be run on this expense.

—The *Diário de Santos* of the 15th says that the city of Santos is absolutely without efficient police protection, the people being left to the mercy of the thieves and cutthroats of the place. Our colleague proposes a "civic guard," organized and maintained by business men and property-holders, for the protection of the city.

—The Italian is beginning to make his influence felt. At São Carlos do Pinhal recently one of them fired a pistol at a railway employé, and was helped to escape by his compatriots. One of these latter was afterwards arrested by the police, when the Italians gathered a mob for the rescue, which was prevented only by the people coming to help the police. In good time it will be found that the São Paulo planters have been making a grave mistake in this importation of so large a number of Italians.

—The republican candidate in the 4th assembly district of São Paulo, Dr. Adolpho Gordo (literally "Fat Adolphus"), is making an active canvass for the vacancy caused by the promotion of Rodrigo Silva to the Senate. Speeches, brass bands, fireworks, special trains, with enthusiasm, etc., are reported from all parts.

—The *Diário*, of Santos, says that the bursting of a water main is a "frivolous excuse" for the City Improvements Co. to urge as a reason for not supplying water for a whole day. The lack of water appears to have "huddled" the editorial mind just a little. Perhaps the *Diário* wants to stir up another Santos mob and make the Englishman run for it.

—The street lamps in Amparo, S. Paulo, are not lighted when the moon is "functionating." A few nights since there was a dramatic entertainment in town, and when the first families were all out the moon withdrew from sight and left the good people in feel their way home in the dark. The *Correio* Amparense asks for providencias, but whether against the moon, or the contractor, we can not say.

—A Campinas police *delegado*, Alberto Moller, and Ahlerman Richard Grantholm Dant are at odds and ends over some question relating to burials, the former announcing that he will sign no more burial permits unless absolutely compelled to by the state of the corpse, and this because of the constant "indications" of the aforesaid ahlerman. If Richard is not careful, he will some day have more unburied corpses on hand than he will good for the health and good name of his little city.

RAILROAD NOTES.

—The November receipts of the Macaé and Campos line amounted to 201,762\$280. The expenditures are not made public.

—The corps of surveyors for the São Paulo extension has been organized under the direction of Dr. Guilherme Greenhalg, engineer-in-chief.

—On the 17th the minister of agriculture granted permission to the "Railway Construction Company, Limited" to transact business in the empire.

—The October receipts of the Paulista line were 424,226\$560 and the expenditures 110,937\$970, leaving a surplus of 313,288\$590. This raises the total surplus since 1st July to 904,908\$580.

—The *Journal do Commercio* of the 18th states that the Leopoldina company had decided in neither furnish empty hogs, nor advance cash to planters from the 1st January next. On the following day the president of the railway company contradicted the report.

—The inauguration of traffic on the Descalvenses, S. Paulo, railway will soon take place. The line appears to have been submitted to a rigorous examination, if one can judge from the number of persons who are said to have gone over it.

—The *Gazeta de Notícias* of the 15th says that Senator Dantas is to be the empire for the representatives of the government and the S. Paulo railway company on the question now pending, which is, we presume, the interest guarantee and repayments.

—The contract between the municipality of São Paulo and Mr. Kuhlmann for an elevated, single-rail road across the valley from Rua de S. Bento, corner of Rua de S. João, to a point at or near the Largo Paysandu. The privilege is for 50 years, and the fare to be charged is 50 reis.

—The government has definitely accepted the sections of the Bahia Central line opened on the 15th ult., and remitted the fines imposed for delays in opening the line to traffic. The total extension of the line under traffic is now 306 kilometres, on which the government guarantees 7% interest on a capital of 13,000,000\$.

—The French company having refused to reduce the freight charges on *matte* on the Paraná railway, the dealers in that article have organized an association for sending their product in carts over the Graciosa wagon road, by which they claim they can effect a saving of 25 per cent. on the present railway tariff. If this be true, it does not reflect much credit on the enterprise and liberality of the company.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—The Chargé d'Affaires company is to build four new steamers for the River Plate trade.

—The Brazilian ironclad *Rachuelo* is expected to arrive at Montevideo shortly, where, it is said, she will remain for a couple of months.

—It is said that great dissension exists in the international juridical congress at Montevideo. This, however, will not spoil our Christmas dinner.

—The Buenos Aires *Herald* of the 24th ult. says that 3000 horses had been bought in that city for the Brazilian army at prices ranging from \$60 to \$80 each.

—The trial of young Helen for murder at Montevideo, after a delay of nine months, has resulted in finding him guilty and a sentence of 10 years imprisonment.

—The Montevideo Express says that the U. S. corvette *Trenton* is expected soon to arrive there from the West Coast, and will probably remain in this coast for some time.

—Buenos Aires proposes to Montevideo that three days' observation be imposed on steamer arrivals from Rio, with special favors to those carrying Argentine doctors.

—Belgrano is almost an English village, the number of passengers getting into the train at that place who speak English being as great as those who speak Spanish.—*Buenos Aires Herald*.

—The seven-shot duel between Parlo and Garzon at Buenos Aires appears to have been merely a "shooting match," according to the statement of the principals before the police. Poor shooting and peevish!

—The Rosario correspondent of the Buenos Aires Herald, writing last month, states that the provincial school teachers of Santa Fé had received no salary since March. This will be surprising news to those who are always boasting of the wealth and progress of the River Plate.

—The imaginative Rio correspondent of *El Globo*, of Buenos Aires, telegraphed on the 1st inst. that the estival epidemic among the horses and mules of Rio was caused by the dry and rotten hay imported from the United States. This will be news to the people who buy nothing but River Plate hay for their animals.

—There were 55 steamship arrivals at Buenos Aires in November, of which 23 were British, 11 French, 10 Italian, 9 German, 1 Belgian and 1 Spanish. They landed 727 passengers and 18,421 immigrants. In addition to these 1,537 passengers and 2,017 immigrants were received via Montevideo, and 17 immigrants via other ports.

—Telegrams from Buenos Aires on the 18th announced that a train on the Santa Fé (provincial) railway had been caught in a fire near the S. José colony and was completely consumed. Eight lives were lost, 20 others were gravely injured, and many more slightly injured. The road is a narrow gauge line connecting with the Rosario line and passing through a number of colonies.

LOCAL NOTES

—A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our readers!

—The 1st and 7th battalions of infantry are to take their departure for Mato Grosso in a few days.

—Our police force will be increased next month by 4 companies composed of 487 men.

—We are indebted to Messrs. C. Lenzinger & Filhos for a package of their handsome calendars and Christmas cards.

—It is announced that Ferrari will come to Rio in June and September, first with a dramatic and last with an opera company.

—We are indebted to the American Bank Note Company for a package of their well-known and beautifully printed calendars for 1899.

—The minister of agriculture declines to pay 6,000\$ for Sr. Carleira's collection of zoological, geological and mineralogical curiosities.

—It is reported that the government will at once begin the construction of a telegraph line from Botucatu, S. Paulo, across country to Mato Grosso.

—We cannot recall any fact that furnished us more real satisfaction than that given by the Havas agency on the 20th; the celebrated chief of the *Black Flag* is dead.

—Our local opera enterprise is receiving subscriptions for the projected representations in June. It is said that 50 boxes have already been taken, the company to give 30 representations.

—The first female doctor in medicine of the Rio medical school defended her thesis and was given her diploma on the 19th. The new doctor is D. Emelinda Lopes de Vasconcellos.

—Dr. Pedro F. Carré de Araújo left for Valparaíso on the 22nd where he is to represent this government as minister resident. It was some time ago reported that he would represent Brazil at Washington.

—The government has generously resolved to permit the Banco de Japaneu to pay to the Treasury the balance of his indebtedness by six month's installments. Unpaid taxes, we presume. The public official appears to be better at collecting than at paying.

—An unknown white man, about 40 years of age, was found dead at the door of the City Improvements building, Rua de S. Bento, on the morning of the 20th. From various large contusions on the head, it would appear that the man had been killed.

—The judges of the Supreme Court are rescuing a circular issued by the minister of justice which they consider offends their *brisa*. Perhaps the government will have to get up a judicial army of observation and send some of the old Supreme Court fossils to Mato Grosso along with Gen. Deodoro.

—Seventeen insubordinate but *brisco* cadets, of the Escola Militar have been sent to Rio Grande.

—The extra dance among the provincial presidents this year has cost 15,000\$ in mileage expenses, not including recent appointments.

—The first news of the breaking up of the empire comes from Guyana, where the president's palace (*sic*) is threatening to fall down on the presidential head.

—On the 13th, in the presence of a judge, the orphans' strong-box was opened. As all the orphans' money is in the Treasury, it would be interesting to know what is kept in the box.

—One wine racket manufacturer has been blown up. We are sorry he is likely to die, but perhaps he will be better off; and if the supply of rockets is reduced, hot war will have less strong language charged to them.

—The December liquidations are receiving extraordinary assistance this year from fees. We do not charge incendiarism, but at the same time it is a remarkable coincidence that so many should occur this particular month.

—Goul for the *Diário do Commercio*. On the 13th our colleague gave an employé of the Treasury a sharp talking to and on the 14th the little potentate came to the office and apologized. He will not be turned off, though he well deserved it.

—The city health inspector reported unfavorably respecting the tobacco factory in the Riachá Assembly, and the minister of empire has ordered the municipal chamber to draw up an ordinance regulating such establishments in the centre of the city.

—Another credit for "public relief" has been opened in the department of empire—this time for 179,755\$759. Why the doctors did not exert themselves to spend that last real (one-twentieth of a cent.) so as to make the sum 760 *reals*, is a genuine puzzle.

—One of our local colleagues has recently given us a decided surprise by advocating the creation of police courts in Rio. We began advocating this measure years ago, and finally gave it up because we could not prevail upon a newspaper man to even think about it.

—The minister of agriculture has sent samples of wheat, received from France, to the presidents of the provinces of Rio de Janeiro, S. Paulo and Minas Geraes. But would it not be just as well to first produce what Indian corn and beans are necessary for home consumption?

—To save the feelings of the relatives of delinquents, who die under suspicious circumstances, the minister of justice on the 13th ordered the chief of police to have post-mortem examinations made at the cemeteries. What difference does it make to be chopped up at the cemetery, or at the Morgue?

—Hurrah for Sr. Sant'Anna Nery! He writes the *Journal* under date of the 30d ult., that he had assumed the thunders task of enlightening European clamorous as to Brazil. We know of no one better able to penetrate European mists, nor of any better position for this purpose than the Paris boulevards.

—The republicans are complaining that the authorities are preventing their hiring the theatres of the city for public conferences. The proprietors have been warned not to rent their places, under penalty of having them *burned*. The charge is made by Dr. Aristides Lobo in a letter to the *Diário Popular* of the 17th inst.

—A very pretty confidence game was tried here on the 22nd. A man named Schmitt, an oil manufacturer, wanted to borrow 500\$ of a commission merchant named Janot, and offered to deposit 60 cans of oil as security. Samples were given and the offer was accepted. Thirty of these cans were at once delivered, but an accidental investigation demonstrated that they were all filled with water. Schmitt was at once arrested, and will probably eat his Christmas dinner in jail.

—Having lost their temper and called each other names, Srs. Placido de Abreu and Ferreira Lima concluded to fight a duel. The affair came off in Anilary Grande on the morning of the 12th, and in the first assault Ferreira Lima got a sword thrust in his left arm near the shoulder, which proved him to be in the wrong and incapacitated him from further mischief. The two heroes then embraced each other rapturously, took back all their naughty words, wept with happiness over not having killed each other, and then went home to breakfast. Pretty sport, isn't it? Next!

—On the night of the 14th a violent fire, commencing in a corner grocery, destroyed some 40 small houses occupied by poor families in the Catumbi suburb. It is the same old story. All were under the same roof, division walls like cardboard, and it appears to have been only by the mercy of God that the loss of life was not terrific. Fortunately or providentially, the dwellers escaped, many in their night clothes, but nearly all their poor property was destroyed. These general fires are becoming alarming and sooner or later there must be a hostile disaster.

—The Mato Grosso army of observation is to be commanded by Gen. Deodoro da Fonseca.

—The steamer *Peinambuco* landed 306 Ceará refugees in this port on the 22nd.

—The "South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company" of New Zealand has been granted permission to transact business in Brazil.

—It would appear that during the legislative recess, the presidents of provinces will be chosen from the unoccupied deputies.

—The inspector-general of hygiene wants a special commission to draw up regulations for the inspection and condemnation of falsified foods and drinks. These ten sample bottles must have legal recognition!

—By a legislative decree of the 24th ult., the government is authorized to grant a concession for the opening of a new street from the Praça 28 de Setembro, and for the widening of Ruas S. Bento and Conselheiro Sarauva.

—Our colleague, *Novidades*, deserves all commendation for its universal stone-throwing; if it will keep it up it will hit somebody, as sure as pop. The River Plate horses for the army is a recent target for our esteemed colleague.

—On the 19th 600 immigrants returned to Nictheroy from Cantagallo, where they had been sent on the 16th. They claim that they were destined for the province of Minas Geraes, and refused to go to plantations around Cantagallo.

—On the 18th an Italian, sent from the str. *Provincia de S. Paulo* to the Saude hospital was hanged, the cause of death being said to have been confluent small-pox. It is a question of how many more immigrants by that steamer were affected by this loathsome disease.

—The Emperor, through the minister of justice, objects to having the bodies of children sent to the police for autopsy in paste-board boxes and similar envelopes. The police doctors will have to examine the poor little dead babies at their former residences hereafter.

—We have seen the politeness of Brazilians enthusiastically referred to, and are led to believe that the loafers who occupy the sidewalks of the Rua do Ovidio, and oblige ladies to go into the street, are all foreigners. Portuguese probably, if their language is a guide to nationality.

—On the night of the 18th an eating-house keeper determined to commit suicide. He wrote letters to his creditors and the chief of police, went under a bridge of the Mangue canal and fired three shots of a revolver at his ear. He took the precaution to turn his head away each time, and thus escaped destruction.

—On the 18th the importers of boots and shoes of this city met and elected a committee to appeal to the government against the manner in which the custom house authorities are measuring their wares. It would have been better to have organized another local shoe factory, and so escape all interference of the custom-house.

—The action of the Sociedade Central da Imigração in addressing a letter to the Chinese minister in London against the importation of Chinese glories by Brazilian planters, seems to have checked the movement for a time. The probabilities are that the new bank for aiding Chinese importation will not have much business on hand for some time to come.

—On the 15th an employé of a commercial house here, who had apparently previously robbed his employers of some 900\$, forged a cheque on the Banco Commercial for 5,500\$, received the money, and left for Europe. The forger was discovered, the telegraph secured the arrest of the forger at Bahia, and the greater part of the money seems to have been recovered.

—The Carris Urbanas tramway succeeded in killing a colored woman on the evening of the 17th. The driver and conductor escaped. The unfortunate victim appears to have been intoxicated and the driver, as is usual, was probably behind time and desired to escape a fine. A human life is worth less than 3\$ or 4\$ any day to the drivers of the Carris Urbanas trams.

—The *Journal* of the 19th acknowledges the receipt of two marches, for the piano, from Buenos Aires. The one is dedicated to the Emperor and the Empress, and the other to the Brazilian and Argentine Press, to the committees of the popular rejoicings and to the delegates of the Rio press to the River Plate. One is labelled "Reason conquers force," and other "the Strength of the idea breaks the sword."

—We are indebted to Mr. J. Rombauer, of 76 Rua 1^a de Março, for samples of the famous Hungarian wines, consisting of dry and sweet Tokay, Chateau Comblond (Rhine wine), Chateau l'alegny (Burgundy), Claret and Szegeder (common table wine). Mr. Rombauer is making an effort to introduce these wines into this market, where, because of their purity and other good qualities, they ought to be highly appreciated.

—The Messageries Maritimes' packet *Portugal* entered port on the 21st only 12 1/2 days from Lisbon.

—Six Argentine doctors arrived here on the 18th for the purpose of inspecting steamers destined for Buenos Aires.

—Another strike is threatened at Santa Cruz because of non-payment of wages. Is it not about time for the aldermen to turn over a new leaf?

—Beriberi as well as yellow fever is on the increase in this city. The board of health had better double the compulsory contribution of wine from importers at once, and see if that will not check the epidemics.

—We are much gratified to note that the minister of agriculture has resolved to act upon our suggestion with respect to artesian wells in Ceará. It is said that a contract is to be signed with an American for a well to supply 300,000 litres of water per day, the cost to be 100,000\$.

—The Revy commission for the completion of the celebrated Quixadá dam, left for Ceará on the 20th. That famous safe will probably now be opened and the money will flow voluminously as before. The Rio sanitary works will now have to wait until the great man gets through with Ceará.

—The Genoa correspondent of a Belgian journal says, according to *O País* of the 16th, that the Brazilian government will have paid 18 million francs, or say £720,000 stg., to Italian steamship companies for immigrants' passage money up to January. It is a deal of money, and we trust the expenditure will prove remunerative.

—There is a report current at the Praça that the *Fravia*, which sailed for Genoa on the 16th inst., carried one or two hundred immigrants back to Italy who found themselves deceived on arrival and determined to return home at once. The sailing notice notes only 10 immigrant departures. It would be interesting to know if there is any truth in the report.

—It is interesting, but not important, to note that Dr. Freire has written a monograph on "La Mission du Dr. Sternberg au Brésil," to refute the unfavorable report on his reputed discovery of the microbe causing yellow fever. It may be said, however, that Dr. Freire is wasting his time, for his claims are not recognized even here. His standing in the profession is not particularly enviable.

—Six per cent guarantees are announced on the following central sugar factories: Pau d'Alho, Pernambuco, 750,000\$; Japarutaba, Sergipe, 750,000\$; Monção, Maranhão, 750,000\$; Maracangalha, Bahia, 400,000\$; Arizys (near Campos), Rio de Janeiro, 750,000\$, diffusion process; and the same guarantee on 350,000\$ to the Barcellos usine, same locality, to cover expense of transforming to the diffusion process.

—Something of a riot occurred in Santos on the 19th and 20th inst. owing to the failure of a contractor, Dr. Americo Freire, to pay his laborers for about three months. A crowd gathered around his house on the 19th, evening, and a force of marines was sent to disperse it. Armed resistance from the house led to its being stoned, during which shots were fired at the crowd, but without injury. Disturbances followed on the 20th, but of a less serious character.

—The telegrams published here on the 20th were startling. A new murder in London, and the report of the capture of the mysterious assassin; Russia was trying to pick a quarrel with Persia; the United States had sent a squadron to Haiti, because the inhabitants of that island had fired upon and sunk a German gunboat; the Pope objects to blessing Irish medals, and is going to send Italian priests to the United States; a Montreal syndicate of unrecognizable names is organized to build the great Guyana railway; and others of less importance.

—There was a little trouble at the Ilha das Flores immigrants' station a few days since, because of which the police were called in. Some thirty odd Italians had returned from Santa Maria Magalhães dissatisfied with their treatment and refusing to enter into any more contracts. They were being entertained at public cost on Flores island, when a steamer entered port with a large number of new arrivals. To prevent these dissatisfied parties from mixing with the new immigrants, the authorities determined to move them to another place in Nictheroy, and they resisted.

—We are glad to see that the recently chosen senator from Minas Geraes, Barão de Santa Helena, has been elected as a representative of indemnity for the despoiled planters, and that the Emperor has recognized the necessity of a change of policy. Our information is derived from our colleague, *Novidades*, and our joy arises from the possibility of again registering a change of ministry. To talk about four years' presidencies in the United States is puerile, when a Brazilian cabinet can be kicked into the street in twenty-four hours, or even less. P.S.—Our London colleague, *Money*, will please note that there is a little "iron" in the above, and that it is not an editorial opinion.

.....	240	100	19	Hamburg Ger str <i>San Nicolas</i>
.....	238	100	19	London Br str <i>Tanour</i>
.....	235	100		Antwerp do
.....	105	000	19	Mediterranean Ital str <i>Birmania</i>
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